



Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

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News & Announcements

July 5, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Matthew
Κυριακή Τετάρτη Μαθθαιου



- Athanasius of Mount Athos 7/5/2020
- Righteous Father Lampadus the Wonderworker 7/5/2020
- Kyprianos the New Martyr of Koutloumousiou Monastery 7/5/2020
- Uncovering of the Holy Relics of Our Righteous Father Sergius of Radonezh 7/5/2020
- Holy New Martyrs Elizabeth the Grand Duchess and the Novice Barbara 7/5/2020

NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Divine Liturgy starting at 10:00 a.m

To Our Visitors and Guests

We welcome you to worship with us today, whether you are an Orthodox Christian or this is your first visit to an Orthodox Church, we are pleased to have you with us. Although Holy Communion and other Sacraments are offered only to baptized and chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians in good standing with the Church, all are invited to receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) from the priest at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The Antidoron is not a sacrament, but it is reminiscent of the agape feast that followed worship in the ancient Christian Church. After the Divine Liturgy this morning please join us in the Church Hall for fellowship and refreshments. Please complete a Visitor's Card before you leave today and drop it in the offering tray, or give it to one of the parishioners after the service, or mail it to the Church Office.

The Sunday Epistle Reading

The saints shall rejoice in glory.

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-2



Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Καυχῆσονται ὅσοι ἐν δόξῃ

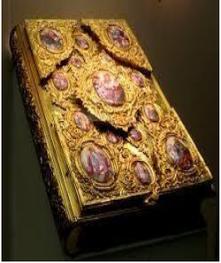
Στίχ. Ἦσατε τῷ Κυρίῳ ἄσμα καινόν.

Πρὸς Γαλάτας Επιστολῆς Παυλοῦ τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα 5:22-26, 6:1-2

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ καρπὸς τοῦ πνεύματός ἐστιν ἀγάπη, χαρά, εἰρήνη, μακροθυμία, χρηστότης, ἀγαθωσύνη, πίστις, πραότης, ἐγκράτεια· κατὰ τῶν τοιούτων οὐκ ἔστιν νόμος. Οἱ δὲ τοῦ Χριστοῦ, τὴν σάρκα ἐσταύρωσαν σὺν τοῖς παθήμασιν καὶ ταῖς ἐπιθυμίαις. Εἰ ζῶμεν πνεύματι, πνεύματι καὶ στοιχῶμεν. Μὴ γινώμεθα κενόδοξοι, ἀλλήλους προκαλούμενοι, ἀλλήλοις φθονοῦντες. Ἀδελφοί, ἐὰν καὶ προληφθῇ ἄνθρωπος ἐν τινι παραπτώματι, ὑμεῖς οἱ πνευματικοὶ καταρτίζετε τὸν τοιοῦτον ἐν πνεύματι πραότητος, σκοπῶν σεαυτὸν μὴ καὶ σὺ πειρασθῆς. Ἀλλήλων τὰ βάρη βαστάζετε, καὶ οὕτως ἀναπληρώσατε τὸν νόμον τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

The Sunday Gospel Reading

The Gospel According to Matthew 8:5-13



At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον Ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα 8:5-13

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἰσελθόντι δὲ αὐτῷ εἰς Καπερναοὺμ προσῆλθεν αὐτῷ ἑκατόνταρχος παρακαλῶν αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· Κύριε, ὁ παῖς μου βέβληται ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ παραλυτικός, δεινῶς βασανιζόμενος. καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἐγὼ ἐλθὼν θεραπεύσω αὐτόν. καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ ἑκατόνταρχος ἔφη· Κύριε, οὐκ εἰμι ἰκανὸς ἵνα μου ὑπὸ τὴν στέγην εἰσέλθῃς· ἀλλὰ μόνον εἰπέ λόγῳ, καὶ ἰαθήσεται ὁ παῖς μου. καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ ἄνθρωπός εἰμι ὑπὸ ἐξουσίαν, ἔχων ὑπ' ἐμαυτὸν στρατιώτας, καὶ λέγω τούτῳ, πορεύθητι, καὶ πορεύεται, καὶ ἄλλῳ, ἔρχου, καὶ ἔρχεται, καὶ τῷ δούλῳ μου, ποιήσον τοῦτο, καὶ ποιεῖ. ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐθαύμασε καὶ εἶπε τοῖς ἀκολουθοῦσιν· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, οὐδὲ ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ τοσαύτην πίστιν εὔρον. λέγω δὲ ὑμῖν ὅτι πολλοὶ ἀπὸ ἀνατολῶν καὶ δυσμῶν ἤξουσι καὶ ἀνακλιθήσονται μετὰ Ἀβραὰμ καὶ Ἰσαὰκ καὶ Ἰακώβ ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν, οἱ δὲ υἱοὶ τῆς βασιλείας ἐκβληθήσονται εἰς τὸ σκότος τὸ ἐξώτερον· ἐκεῖ ἔσται ὁ κλαυθμὸς καὶ ὁ βρυγμὸς τῶν ὀδόντων. καὶ εἶπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τῷ ἑκατοντάρχῳ· ὕπαγε, καὶ ὡς ἐπίστευσας γενηθήτω σοι. καὶ ἰάθη ὁ παῖς αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ ὥρᾳ ἐκείνῃ.



Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Barbara,

We are happy to be able to welcome you back to Sunday Church Services starting May 31, 2020.

I know that we all have been longing for the days that our doors would once again be opened. The anticipation and the wait is now finally over. This marks a new beginning for all of us, and I am so grateful that the day will finally arrive. The day will inaugurate the new way that we will start coming into the Church, and the way and where we sit in Church. These directives are also in accordance with the guidelines set out by our Metropolis and cover all the Greek Orthodox churches in the Metropolis of Atlanta.

We will be in step with other houses of worship that abide by the rules that have been set for all of us since the onset of Covid-19. In order to prevent the spread of the virus we hope that all of our parishioners have been following the CDC directives, which include: hand washing thoroughly and frequently, covering your coughs and sneezes, avoiding sharing personal items, wearing a mask, and maintaining a social distance of at least six feet.

The Divine Liturgy will start at 10:00 AM. We will have new guidelines in place for everyone's safety that will mean it takes longer to get into the church. Please plan accordingly and allow yourselves extra time.

Please read these guidelines to familiarize yourself and your families with the new procedures in order to make everything go smoothly.

Before and During the services:

- **Masks are required** upon entering the church by all parishioners aged 2 and above.
- **Each person is to be checked in** by a parish council member.
- **All those in attendance should sanitize their hands** by either washing them or using a hand sanitizer prior to entering and after they leave the church.
- Doors will be propped open so you **do not touch the door handles**.
- **Before entering the church, the temperature of each person will be taken** by a designated person. If the person's temperature is above 100.4 he or she will be kindly asked to return to their home, both for their safety and the safety of others.
- **Parish Council will direct each parishioner to designated seats** in the pews for each person or household to sit starting in the front of the church and working their way to back. Please do not ask to be seated in your "usual" seats.
- **A place to accept offerings will be provided in the Narthex** upon entering or leaving. If possible, you are encouraged to use the online giving portal which can be found at stbarbarachurchnc.org by clicking on the "Donations" button.

- **A Parish Council member will hand out tapers to be lit. The 7 day votive candles are to be lit on behalf of the parishioner by a designated person** if possible.
- Honor is to be shown to Holy Icons and the Holy Cross by only doing your cross and bowing, keeping in mind not to kiss or to touch the Holy Icons and the Holy Cross.
- No one is to enter the Holy Altar except the clergy and assigned altar servers.
- No service books should be distributed or left out for common use. This includes papers of any kind (bulletins etc.). Parishioners are encouraged to bring their own service books.

During Holy Communion

- **Communicants must line up row by row (with help from Parish Council) and remain six feet** apart using the designated social distancing X's that have been placed in the church.
- **Communicants may remove their masks only momentarily to receive Holy Communion.**
- Clergy and altar servers must wear a mask during the distribution of Holy Communion.
- The red communion cloths (μάκτρα) will be held underneath the person's chin by the altar servers. The communicant may not touch it and absolutely no wiping of mouths.
- No antidoron will be distributed at the time of Communion but instead at the end of the service.

After services

- After the dismissal, the clergy will distribute the antidoron wearing a mask and gloves and they will not offer their hands for reverence.
- Clergy and faithful will refrain from handshakes or hugs.
- There will be no coffee/social hour or Sunday school classes until further notice. Parishioners should leave the Nave as soon as the Divine Liturgy is concluded.

Remember that parishioners who are at a higher risk for severe illness from Covid-19 as defined by civil authorities, or those who are uncomfortable with returning at this time, are given dispensation by Metropolitan Alexios to refrain from attending in person. We encourage those faithful to participate in the experience of our sacred worship at home, by continuing to watch our live streams which we will continue to provide. We look forward to the time when all may feel safe in returning to Church.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you that have been continuing their weekly practice of making a Sunday offering, and lighting a candle by means of using the donations prompt on our website. We appreciate those who are maintaining the Church by means of their Stewardship and Building Fund donations. During these difficult times I want to say that your support is not taken lightly because it means so much to all of us at Saint Barbara.

May the Lord Keep You Strong in your Life so that Nothing but the Love of God will take it over.

Fr. Stavroforos Mamaies

Fr. Stavroforos

STEWARDS AS OF JULY 1, 2020

Our 2020 Stewardship drive has slowed. As of July 1, 2020, we have 137 Stewards, or 86% of our goal of 160 for the year. Please help us meet our annual goal by pledging your support. Your time, talents and treasury are critical to the success of our Ministries.

We need your help during these trying times. Please give prayerful consideration to your 2020 contribution as soon as possible. Stewardship is the primary source of the funding for our Ministries and operating obligations. Our expenses don't stop. Remember for every dollar more you give to the Stewardship, Mortgage and Contingency Funds than you did in 2019 will get matched up to a total of an additional \$50,000. Thank you.

Alexander, Dr. Susan	Delagrammatikas, George	Mangum, Daniel & Dr. Hrisavgi	Quint, Angelia
Alexiades, Alec & Frances	& Christal	Mantzouka, Eleftheria	Rheinhardt, Keith & Alexia
Alger, Amy	Demetriades, Gus & Vanessa	Mariakakis, Johnny & Catherine	Rudnick, Ben & Irene
Amos, Matt & Vickie	Dennos, Anne	Marinos, Dr. Pete & Joan	Safarikas, Al & Christine
Arapoglou, Alexander & Laurel	Dennos, George & Patricia	Martin, Azeb	Saloupis, Peter
Assimos, Dean & Jan	Dorton, Betty	Mavroidis, Panagiotis	Sarris, George & Jenny
Arvanitis, Marina	Easton, Bryan & Maria	& Dimitra	Stavarakakis, Mattheos & Marika
Bakis, Basile & Mary	Edwards, Tia	Mavrogiorgos, Dr. Nikolaos	Stephens, Hon. Ron & Vicky
Bakis, George & Marie	Ferris, Laurice	& Charlot, Dr. Marjorie	Stutts, Linda
Balafas, Nicholas & Eugenia	Fitzherbert, Dimitra	McCoy, Josh	Sullivan, William & Jennifer
Boska, Marilyn	Frangakis, Crist & Maria	McGovern, Victoria	Sunas, Marian
Barbee, Effie	Gerondelis, Socratis & Aliki	McKillip, Cathy	Tesfatsion, Senait
Becak, Thalia	Georgiou, Nicholas	Megara, Matthew & Tina	Theodosiadis, Zacharias
Beridze, Tamar	Glekas, Dr. George & Dr. Amy	Mehalek, John & Dawn	& Marinetou, Efstanthia
Biggs, John & Diana Dobrica	Glekas, Jim & Evy	Mermigas, Nicholas	Theophanous, Rebecca
Blackley, Agape	Goodwin, Len & Elaine	Napier, David & Courtney	Trohanis, Donna
Bonfiglio, Barbara	Grasso, V. & Elenie	Nolas, Billy & Julie	Tryphonos, Tryphonos &
Bourbous, Nick	Greene, Marlyana	Odzak, Larry & Hope	Suzanne
Callahan, Katherine	Kacoyanis, Anna	Paliouras, Cindy	Tzilvelis, Jane
Carr, Sophie	Kacoyanis, Paul	Paliouras, James & Helen	Valakas, Antonia
Capsalis, Anne	Kamilaris, Christos & Janet	Paliouras, John & Dena	Varelas, Dimitrios
Capsalis, Manuel & Carole	Kantner, Ed & Eve	Paliours, Nicholas	Varelas, John
Christakos, Andrew & Cheryl	Karamalegos, Antonios & Claire	Panos, Peter & Evelyn	Vlachos, Demetra
Christakos, Arthur	Karas, George & Karen	Panov, Yuri & Elena Eliseeva	Vurnakes, James & Frances
Christakos, Eleni	Kash, Dr. Thomas &	Pantelidis, James & Stella	Walter, August
Christakos, Lia	Dr Zoe McElligott	Pantermakis, George & Janet	Walter, Ray & Eleni
Christie, George & Deborah	Katsiagianis, Wendy	Papanikas, Kleanthis	Waters, Alexa
Chronaki, Bessie	Korach, Dr. Kenneth & Karen	& Angelika	& Gerhard, William
Chronaki, Cadee	Koutouzakis, Helen	Papanikas, Sam & Cleopatra	Watters, Jacques & Christine
Cocolas, Erie	Kuyper, Dr. Andrew	Papazoglou, Matina	Wilson, Preston & Catherine
Constantinou, Catherine	Kuyper, Dr. Lee & Pauline	Pappas, Katherine	Wippich, Robert & Roberta
& Wes Platt	Lambiris, Elias & Madelene	Pappas, Dr. Ted & Theky	Witham, Grace & Brantley, Nick
Constantinou, Costa	Lockett, Paul & Melanie	Paraschos, Sophia	Xenakis, Betsy
Constantinou, Lou	Loden, Martha	Pashales, George	Zaferatos, Dino & Kerri
Costas, Dean	Livas, Katherine	Przybyl, Daniel & Lori	Zehia, Christina
Dababnah, Sharan	Mamaies, Fr. Stavroforos	Qaqish, Dr. Olgha	Zehia, Tony & Evelyn
Dais, George & Helen		& Arboleda, Mario	Zoumbos, Vasili

Stewardship 2020

A Unique Opportunity to Double the Value of Your 2020 Donations

If you give more in 2020 than your combined 2019 dollar contributions to the Stewardship, Mortgage and Contingency Funds, your additional contributions will be matched dollar for dollar by an anonymous donor. The total amount available for matching funds is \$50,000. With full Parish participation in 2020, we can raise an additional \$100,000 to meet our expenses and serve our Ministries.

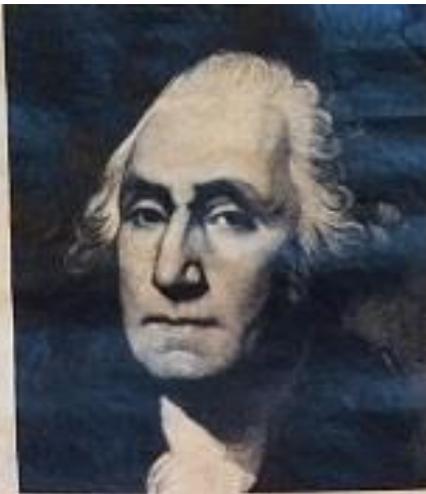
Please prayerfully consider increasing your pledge and giving in 2020. New Stewards are also encouraged to participate in the program.

Please see the Pledge form for complete details. For your convenience, you can make your contributions online via the St. Barbara website www.stbarbarachurchnc.org/donation.

**Thank you,
The Stewardship Committee**

Reading for the Holy New Martyrs Elizabeth the Grand Duchess

Grand Duchess Elizabeth, a grand-daughter of Queen Victoria of England and elder sister of Empress Alexandra of Russia (see July 4), was one of the most illustrious women of her day, known throughout Europe not only for her high birth and graceful beauty, but also for her modesty and goodness of heart. After marrying Grand Duke Sergius Alexandrovich, she converted to Orthodoxy, although this was not required of her by her position. After the assassination of her husband in 1905, Grand Duchess Elizabeth withdrew from public life, founding the convent of Saints Martha and Mary, of which she became the superior. There she dedicated herself to prayer, fasting, tending the sick, and caring for the poor. After the Bolsheviks seized power, she was exiled to the Urals, where she and those with her were martyred in 1918 when they were cast alive into an abandoned mine. The Novice Barbara followed Saint Elizabeth into exile. When she was separated from the Grand Duchess, Barbara asked to be allowed to join her again; to terrify her, the Bolsheviks told her that she would be allowed to do this, but only if she were prepared for unheard-of torments and a violent death. To their amazement, she consented, and was deemed worthy of martyrdom with the Grand Duchess. Their holy relics were recovered and taken through Russia to China, and came to rest in the Convent of Saint Mary Magdalene in Jerusalem. When their reliquaries were opened in 1981, their bodies were found to be partially incorrupt, and sweet with the odour of sanctity. With them are also commemorated their fellow Martyrs: Grand Duke Sergius Mikhailovich; Princes John, Constantine, and Igor, the brethren; Prince Vladimir Paley; and Theodore Remez.



WASHINGTON'S PRAYER FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large.

And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues. The Fourth of July 2020 is on Saturday, July 4, 2020.

A History of Independence Day

When the initial battles in the [Revolutionary War](#) broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical.

By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in the bestselling pamphlet “[Common Sense](#),” published by [Thomas Paine](#) in early 1776.

On June 7, when the [Continental Congress](#) met at the [Pennsylvania](#) State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the [Virginia](#) delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies’ independence.

Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee’s resolution, but appointed a five-man committee—including [Thomas Jefferson](#) of Virginia, [John Adams](#) of [Massachusetts](#), Roger Sherman of [Connecticut](#), [Benjamin Franklin](#) of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of [New York](#)—to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain.

(Did you know? John Adams believed that July 2nd was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence, and would reportedly turn down invitations to appear at July 4th events in protest. Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826—the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.)

READ MORE: [7 Events That Led to the American Revolution](#)

On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee’s resolution for independence in a near-unanimous vote (the New York delegation abstained, but

later voted affirmatively). On that day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that July 2 “will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival” and that the celebration should include “Pomp and Parade...Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other.”

On July 4th, the Continental Congress formally adopted the [Declaration of Independence](#), which had been written largely by Jefferson. Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on the 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence.

Fourth of July Becomes a Federal Holiday

The tradition of patriotic celebration became even more widespread after the [War of 1812](#), in which the United States again faced Great Britain. In 1870, the U.S. Congress made July 4th a federal holiday; in 1941, the provision was expanded to grant a paid holiday to all federal employees.

Over the years, the political importance of the holiday would decline, but Independence Day remained an important national holiday and a symbol of patriotism.

Falling in mid-summer, the Fourth of July has since the late 19th century become a major focus of leisure activities and a common occasion for family get-togethers, often involving fireworks and outdoor barbecues. The most common symbol of the holiday is the American flag, and a common musical accompaniment is “[The Star-Spangled Banner](#),” the national anthem of the United States.



Why did Francis Scott Key write the Star Spangled Banner?

This poem is in the public domain. Francis Scott Key was a lawyer who witnessed the daylong **assault of Fort McHenry** by British troops during the War of 1812. Key saw the fort hold during the attack and was inspired to write The Star-Spangled Banner, which became the U.S. national anthem.

O! say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming:
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming,
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;

O! say, does that Star-spangled Banner still* wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam --
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream;

'Tis the Star-spangled Banner, O! long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave.
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave!

And the Star-spangled Banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O! thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and the foe's desolation;
Bless'd with victory and peace, may our Heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation
Then conquer we must, for our cause it is just --
And this be our motto -- "In God is our trust!"

And the Star-spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

God Bless America

*While the storm clouds gather far across the
sea, let us swear allegiance to a land that's free.
Let us all be grateful for a land so fair, as we
raise our voices in a solemn prayer.*

*God bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam.
God bless America, my home sweet home.
God bless America, my home sweet home.*

- - Irving Berlin





AN ORTHODOX PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

Any Christian may privately say this prayer.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST OUR GOD: Accept from us, thine unworthy servants, this fervent supplication, and having forgiven us all our sins, remember all our enemies that hate and wrong us, and render not unto them according to their deeds, but according to Thy great mercy convert them:

The unbelieving to true faith and piety, and the believing that they may turn away from evil and do good.

By Thine all-powerful might, mercifully deliver all of us, Thy holy Church and our Nation from every evil circumstance.

Free our homeland, from all enemies, both visible and invisible and their power; Hearken unto the painful cry of Thy faithful servants who cry unto Thee day and night in tribulation and sorrow, O our most merciful God, and lead their life out of corruption.

Grant peace and tranquility, love and steadfastness, and swift reconciliation to Thy people, whom Thou hast redeemed by Thy Precious Blood. But unto them that have departed from Thee and seek Thee not, be Thou manifest, that not one of them perish, but that all of them be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth; that all in harmonious oneness of mind and unceasing love may glorify Thy most holy name, O patient-hearted Lord Who art quick to forgive.

O Physician of souls and bodies, with compunction and contrite hearts we fall down before Thee and groaning we cry unto Thee:

Heal the injuries and sicknesses, heal the passions of the souls and bodies of all those who have been injured or are perishing from attacks of lawless ones.

Pardon the injured, for Thou art kind-hearted, all transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, and quickly raise them up from their bed of sickness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Again we pray that our Nation be preserved from famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, the attack of enemies, and civil war; that our good and man loving God may be merciful a favorable to those who are still trapped in the destroyed buildings and that He assist those who are attempting to rescue them.

O Lord, give wisdom and strength to our leaders in this terrible time of trouble and hearken unto the voice of the supplication of us sinners, and have mercy on us all, for a merciful God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Adapted from <http://www.pomog.org>. At <http://www.orthodox.net/trebnic/prayer-for-our-nation.2x2ds.pdf>

America the Beautiful



O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain
For purple mountain majesties
Above thy fruited plain
America, America
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea
O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness
America, America
God mend thine every flaw
Confirm thy soul in self control
Thy liberty in law
O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life

America, America
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine
O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears
America, America
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea
O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain
For purple mountain majesties
Above thy fruited plain
America, America
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea



SAINT BARBARA CHURCH 2020 PLEDGE FORM

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone(s): _____

Email(s): _____

SPECIAL MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY FOR 2020*

Please prayerfully consider increasing your contributions above your 2019 giving level. Any increases above your total 2019 giving to the Mortgage + Contingency + Stewardship Funds are eligible for a dollar-for-dollar match, to be given to the Stewardship Fund by an anonymous donor, up to a parish total of \$50,000 for 2020. Help us realize the full \$50,000 Matching Funds donation and double the impact of your increased donation!

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE FOR 2020*

Stewardship donations pay for the operating expenses (not the mortgage) and ministries of St. Barbara Church, which total about \$25,000 per month. This pledge form is confidential, for use only by the Parish Treasurer.

Name: _____ Cell #: _____ email: _____

Name: _____ Cell #: _____ email: _____

I/We commit to Christ's Church a total Stewardship amount of \$_____ to be paid (check one) *:

semi-annually____ quarterly____ weekly____ Other (specify) _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

____I/We would like to speak with Father Stavroforos before making my/our pledge.

*You can conveniently make your contributions online via the St. Barbara website: www.stbarbarachurchnc.org/donation

MORTGAGE & CONTINGENCY FUND PLEDGES FOR 2020*

The church mortgage obligation is currently \$12,713 per month. I/We hereby pledge to contribute to the Mortgage Fund and acknowledge that my/our giving category (but not the actual dollar amount) may be acknowledged periodically in the church's Weekly Bulletin and/or posted in the Fellowship Hall.

Pillar: \$_____ Torch Bearer: \$_____ Good Shepherd: \$_____ Pace Setter: \$_____

(\$10,400+ per year) (\$5,200-\$10,399 per year) (\$2,600-\$5,199 per year) (\$1,200-\$2,599 per year)

Contributor: \$_____ Friend: \$_____ Other one-time amount: \$_____

(\$520-\$1,199 per year) (\$100-\$519 per year)

I/We hereby also pledge this amount to the Contingency Fund for unforeseen expenses: \$_____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

*You can conveniently make your contributions online via the St. Barbara website: www.stbarbarachurchnc.org/donation